

NATION

Stellenbosch student to appeal disqualification from SRC election

NICOLA DANIELS
nicola.daniels@inl.co.za

THE Student Electoral Commission (SEC) has refused to provide reasons for its decision to disqualify a Stellenbosch University student from the Student Representative Council (SRC). Ben Anderson maintains that he received the most votes as an independent candidate and was announced as a member of the SRC on September 1, but was disqualified by the SEC just a few days later, on September 5.

“On the 1st of September, the Student Electoral Commission announced that I had been elected as one of the generally elected members of the 2025 SRC. I received the most votes out of any candidate and was the only candidate to receive a majority of the total votes cast. On the 5th of September, the Student Electoral Commission unduly disqualified me from the 2025 SRC election and removed me from the SRC,” he said.

Anderson could not elaborate on the reasons at this stage but would appeal the decision with the Stellenbosch University Student Court.

“I am appealing the SEC’s decision in the Stellenbosch University Student Court, in order to be reinstated to the SRC and begin the important work of making real change for my fellow students. I trust the SU legal system and my legal team will deliver a just outcome.”

DA Students Organisation (DASO) Stellenbosch University said while Anderson ran as an independent candidate, as per the Student Electoral Act, he is also a DASO member.

“Ben received 2703 votes in the 2025 SRC election. He was the only candidate to receive a majority of the total votes cast in the election. We believe many of our members voted for him and support his plan to rebuild our SRC.

“DASO SU rejects the Student Electoral Commission’s (SEC) unfair decision to disqualify Ben from the election and condemns what appears to be an obvious attempt to obstruct efforts to reform the SRC. Ben was democratically elected and has a right to serve on the SRC.”

Daso federal chairperson Andrea Martinez added that they had observed “inconsistent application of election rules and subjective interpretations of regulations” at Stellenbosch and other universities, amid election monitoring.

“It creates an environment where candidates are removed, not for violating clear rules, but due to subjective interpretations that cannot be independently verified,” Martinez said.

Stellenbosch University referred questions directly to the SEC.

“The University takes note of decisions made by the Student Electoral Commission with possible inputs and decisions by the Student Court. Enquiries regarding the further course of the process should be directed to the Electoral Commission,” Stellenbosch University said.

Approached for comment, the SEC would only say: “The SRC elections took place between the months of July, August and September 2025. The process included candidate nominations, caucuses, campaigning in compliance with set rules, and secure electronic voting by the student body via a unique link in their student emails.

“The outcome of the election was announced on 1 September 2025, with successful candidates announced as per due process at the Library Auditorium.

“At this moment we will not be commenting on this matter as it will be adjudicated by the Student Court. The SEC reaffirms its commitment to protecting the credibility of student governance through a free, fair, and transparent electoral process.”



FINANCE Mayco Member Siseko Mbandezi was forced off stage during an imbizo, hosted by Ndifuna Ukwazi, the Solidarity Space, and My Vote Counts, at OR Tambo Hall yesterday. The gathering was intended as a platform for residents to question elected leaders about housing, service delivery, and accountability. | AYANDA NDAMANE Independent Newspapers

NATION

Khayelitsha residents confront councillors over accountability issues

MANDILAKHE TSHWETE
mandilakhe.tshwete@inl.co.za

TENSIONS flared at a councillors’ imbizo in Khayelitsha yesterday after Mayco Member for Finance, Siseko Mbandezi, was forced off stage by disgruntled residents.

The imbizo, hosted by Ndifuna Ukwazi, the Solidarity Space, and My Vote Counts, at OR Tambo Hall, was intended as a platform for residents to question elected leaders about housing, service delivery, and accountability.

However, the majority of Democratic Alliance councillors did not attend, leaving only Mbandezi and one other councillor present, both of whom left the event early. Mbandezi said he was unable to give his full input because residents “started chanting that I should leave the stage”.

He told reporters that the proper process would have been to allow him to finish before engaging with residents. “You can’t chase somebody off stage, and then say you need them to answer questions. The decency would have been to let me finish and then engage. People don’t want to hear the progress we’ve made, they just make accusations,” he said.

He insisted that his remarks about the City’s housing projects and MyCiTi bus upgrades were misinterpreted, clarifying that the programme was about well-located land in areas such as Woodstock and Salt River, not Khayelitsha.

Mbandezi described the event as being “anti-City of Cape Town” in tone. “But also, I think the whole programme started on the wrong foot. I mean, the lady there from My Vote Counts, and the other gentleman, they made accusations: ‘These people steal money; they live in luxury. I met these people at the Waterfront.’ It can’t be right. And the Ndifuna Ukwazi’s invitation was never antagonistic in its approach. They invited us to have a discussion.”

Campaigners disputed this, saying the event was intended to hold councillors accountable rather than highlight future developments.

Campaigns lead at My Vote Counts, Keamogetswe Seipato, said the gathering was a clear signal that local democracy requires active participation.

“Our expectation was an opportunity to engage. The fact that councillors from the governing party did not attend shows how our democracy is failing. Respect is a two-way street, residents wanted accountability, not speeches about a ‘nice city’ many do not experience,” Seipato said. She also refuted Mbandezi’s claim that organisers had called councillors thieves.

“No one called anyone a thief. Community members voiced their frustrations with failures of democracy. If someone takes that personally, they must sit with it,” Seipato said.

ANC Dullah Omar Region chairperson, Ndithini Thyido, welcomed the initiative, saying his party “volunteered

to attend. “We want to make the ANC attractive again by accounting directly. The DA, however, has shown it does not represent the interests of black people in Cape Town.

“They send juniors to confront black communities while their top leadership stays away,” Thyido said.

The EFF’s Banzi Dambuzi also criticised the DA for neglecting poor communities.

“Cape Town is divided into Cape Town and iKapa. Black and coloured people are treated as voting numbers, they want toilets, water, electricity, and cleaning services, but instead the DA prioritises squirrels and barking dogs in white suburbs,” he said. Residents raised their concerns during the event. Thandeka Pamla said families had been living in temporary housing for more than 20 years.

“The government could build flats on the same land they placed us on,” she said. Khanyo Mantshi from Unite Behind Disability Revolution asked whether disabled residents were allowed to make input.

“We are suffering and need to know what is being done,” Mantshi said.

Despite walkouts and confrontations, organisers described the gathering as a success in creating space for accountability.

“We created the space. Power lies with councillors and politicians; they should come to us, not the other way around,” Seipato said.

NATION

Cata deputy chairperson shot dead amid escalating taxi violence

MANDILAKHE TSHWETE
mandilakhe.tshwete@inl.co.za

THE Cape Amalgamated Taxi Association’s (Cata) first deputy chairperson became the latest casualty in the ongoing taxi conflict gripping the province. Mnikeli Mgope, 61, was shot dead

on Wednesday night while sitting inside his white Toyota Fortuner at the Nyanga taxi rank.

The killing comes amid renewed violence over the disputed Somerset West–Khayelitsha route between Cata and the Cape Organisation for the Democratic Taxi Association (Codeta).

Although the two rival associations signed a peace agreement in June, tensions reignited soon afterwards, leaving more than 10 taxi owners and drivers dead. Mgope had been operating in the Wynberg area.

Cata spokesperson Nkululeko Sityebi explained that Mgope was preparing to go when unknown men attacked him.

“He was alone when he was killed. We don’t know the reason he was murdered. And we can confirm that he was

the deputy chairman of the region and was operating in the Wynberg area.”

Moments after Mgope’s killing, two other taxi-related shootings were reported in Nyanga.

Two men were attacked while sitting inside a vehicle in Amsterdam Road, Brown’s Farm.

A 42-year-old man was fatally wounded, while a 34-year-old man was rushed to hospital.

“The two who were shot were from our Sea-Water Route; they were taxi

owners.

“We would like to ask our members to remain calm as the police investigate these murders.”

Police spokesperson Wesley Twigg said they were investigating the circumstances leading to Wednesday’s shooting at approximately 8.10pm at the Nyanga taxi rank, Sithandatu Avenue, where a 61-year-old was shot dead.

“According to reports, police members were busy with patrols when they heard gunshots going off.

“The members drove in the direction of the taxi rank, where they found the victim with multiple gunshot wounds to his body. The victim was declared dead on the scene by medical personnel. The suspect/s fled the scene and are yet to be arrested. The motive for the attack is believed to be taxi-related.”

Twigg said Nyanga police also opened murder and attempted murder dockets following the Amsterdam Road shooting at 8:20pm.

“Police members responded to a complaint of a shooting, and upon arrival on the scene, they found the victims with gunshot wounds to their bodies.

“The 42-year-old victim was declared dead on the scene by medical personnel, while the other victim was taken to a medical facility for treatment. The motive for the attack is believed to be taxi-related. The yet to be identified suspect/s are yet to be arrested,” he said.

Anyone with information about the incident can anonymously contact Crime Stop on 08600 10111 or use the MySAPS mobile app.



NATION

‘RAF board responsible for new eligibility for claims’

MAYIBONGWE MAQHINA
mayibongwe.maqhina@inl.co.za

THE interim board of the Road Accident Fund (RAF) has been asked by the Transport Department to determine the number of disputed claims it owes amid an appeal of a court ruling that ordered payouts.

This was revealed by Transport Minister Barbara Creecy when she was responding to DA MP Farhat Essack during a question-and-answer session in the National Assembly.

Essack enquired whether the RAF incurred any liabilities connected to former CEO Collins Letsoalo’s introduction of new eligibility for claims, which could expose the State to billions of rand in new claims.

Creecy clarified that Letsoalo did not introduce new eligibility requirements for claims.

“The Road Accident Fund, through a board notice, which was gazetted on May 6, 2022, introduced terms and conditions for claims to be administered for effective claims processing.

“According to the RAF, this decision was at the time informed by a large number of claims that did not have the required documentation to enable the fund to assess and settle claims, and enable the RAF to expedite the settlement of claims, as provided for under Section 26 of the RAF Act.”

The minister also said the board’s notice was set aside in court, but the matter was currently in the appeal stage.

“At that time, the RAF was granted leave to appeal; these terms and conditions that were included in the board notice are still in place. Should the RAF lose this case, then the entity will be burdened with re-launched claims, rather than new claims and new liability,” she said.

Creecy said since the appointment of the interim RAF board, the Fund was in the process of determining the number and value of all court orders as a result of contested claims.

MK Party MP Talente Kubheka noted that the RAF has recently lost a court case and will need cash to pay claims within 14 days of a court order settlement.

“Chickens have come home to roost. Minister, the strategy to get rid of Collins Letsoalo is clearly backfiring on your choices,” Kubheka said.

He asked if Creecy supported the reported moves by the interim board to disperse R19 billion in outstanding claims.

“Where is RAF going to get the cash to pay claims within 14 days?” Kubheka asked.

In response, Creecy said that because the courts made the decision, RAF can only pay out the claims that it has money to pay out.

“At the moment, we are busy asking the Road Accident Fund’s interim board to quantify exactly what we owe. Once we have that information, we will be in a better position to take appropriate action,” she said.

The minister also revealed that they have asked President Cyril Ramaphosa to extend the proclamation that authorises the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) to probe the affairs of the RAF.

“We have written asking to extend the scope of the inquiry from 2021, when it ended, to the present time. The director-general has followed up, and there is a process of preparing a submission from the side of the SIU to the president in this regard,” she said.





Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement
Western Cape Provincial Parliament
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

BID INVITATION

A managed SOC and SIEM service TENDER

Bid number: WCPPT 02/2025

The WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT (WCPP) hereby requests proposals for the rendering of a managed SOC and SIEM service to the WCPP.

Official bid documents or forms can be obtained on the WCPP’s website at www.wcpp.gov.za.

Separate sealed bids for (1) a tender submission and (2) costs respectively, clearly marked “Proposal number WCPPT 02/2025 – A managed SOC and SIEM service”, must be deposited in the box located in the Visitors’ Centre, ground floor, Western Cape Provincial Parliament Building, 7 Wale Street, Cape Town, or be posted to the Manager: Supply Chain Management, Western Cape Provincial Parliament, Box 648, Cape Town 8000.

All prospective tenderers must attend a compulsory information session on Tuesday 23 September 2025 at 10:00 on MS Teams.

Enquiries: Oesman Alexander at 021 487 1619 or Nadeem Diedericks at 021 487 1736.

Closing date and time for bids: Friday 10 October 2025 at 11:00.

The Western Cape Provincial Parliament reserves the right not to accept the lowest bid or any bid.

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ARINA WILSON



Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Airport Industria City Improvement District NPC (AICID) will be hosting an AGM. All stakeholders are invited to a review of the past financial year’s activities and planning for 2026/27.

Date:

9 October 2025

Time:

12:00

Venue:

Hotel Verde, 15 Michigan Street, Airport Industria 2

Resolutions presented at the meeting can only be voted on by bona fide members of the Airport Industria City Improvement District (AICID). This membership is available free of charge to all owners of property within the Airport Industria City Improvement District (AICID) footprint who are liable for the additional rate (additional rate payers), but they must be registered before 2 October 2025.

To register as a member or access further information and documentation go to www.airportcid.co.za or call 021 386 8403

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